



THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED  
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE  
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT  
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : **Confirmation No. 9178**  
Akihisa HONGO et al. : Attorney Docket No. 2004\_0222  
Serial No. 10/779,827 : Group Art Unit 1762  
Filed February 18, 2004 : Examiner Howard E. Abramowitz  
**ELECTROLESS PLATING APPARATUS AND METHOD** : **Mail Stop: AF**

**AMENDMENT UNDER RULE 116(a)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE UNDER 37.CFR1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP 1762**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of August 29, 2006, the period for response having been extended for one (1) month by the attached petition, please amend the present application as follows: